

Let's Rewind and Rejoice (Page 3)

1. **How is infancy, the first stage of life, described? What are the actions associated with it?**
Answer: Infancy is described as a helpless stage where the baby cries softly (mewling) and vomits (puking) in the nurse's arms. The actions are crying and vomiting, showing the baby's dependence on others for care.
2. **With which age mentioned in the extract do you identify now? Why?**
Answer: I identify with the school-boy stage. As an 8th-grade student, I go to school with a bag (satchel) and sometimes feel unwilling to attend, just like the boy who walks slowly like a snail.
3. **What are the qualities attributed to the soldier? What does he seek?**
Answer: The soldier is brave, uses strong words (strange oaths), has a beard like a leopard (pard), is jealous about honor, and is quick to fight (sudden and quick in quarrel). He seeks short-lived fame (bubble reputation), even risking his life in dangerous situations (cannon's mouth).
4. **How does the writer describe the sixth age of life? How does this age contrast with the earlier stages?**
Answer: The sixth age is described as the "pantaloon," an old man who is weak, wears loose clothes (hose too wide for his shrunk shank), has glasses, a pouch, and a high-pitched, childish voice (treble). This contrasts with earlier stages like the soldier (strong and brave) or justice (wise and healthy), as the old man is frail, forgetful, and childlike, losing the strength and wisdom of earlier ages.

Let's Appreciate (Page 3)**A. Complete the table below.**

The table is meant to summarize the characteristics of each stage. Since the table format is not fully provided in the document, I'll list the characteristics for each stage based on the poem.

Stage	Characteristics
Infant	Helpless, crying (mewling), vomiting (puking), dependent on nurse.
School-boy	Whining, carries a satchel, shining morning face, walks slowly like a snail, unwilling to go to school.
Lover	Sighs loudly (like a furnace), writes sad love songs (woeful ballad) for his beloved's eyebrow.
Soldier	Brave, uses strange oaths, bearded like a leopard, jealous in honor, quick to fight, seeks short-lived fame (bubble reputation).
Justice	Wise, has a round belly (capon-lined), severe eyes, formal beard, full of advice (wise saws) and examples (modern instances).

Stage	Characteristics
Pantaloon (Old Man)	Weak, lean, wears glasses, loose clothes (hose too wide), pouch on side, childish high-pitched voice (treble).
Second Childhood	Very weak, forgets everything (oblivion), without teeth, eyes, taste, or anything (sans everything).

B. Write a brief paragraph summarizing the central theme of the extract.

Answer: "The Seven Ages of Man," written by William Shakespeare, is an extract from the play *As You Like It*. In this poem, the world is compared to a stage where all men and women are actors playing different roles. The extract outlines seven stages of life, starting with the crying infant who needs care, followed by the unwilling school-boy, the passionate lover, the brave soldier, the wise justice, the weak old man (pantaloon), and finally, the second childhood where a person loses everything (sans teeth, sans eyes, sans everything). The central theme is that life is a journey with distinct stages, each with unique roles and characteristics, leading to a final stage of weakness and oblivion.

Let's Recall and Recreate (Page 5)

Activity 1

A. Pick out other instances of simile in the extract.

Answer: A simile compares two things using "like" or "as." The following are similes from the poem:

1. "Creeping like snail" (school-boy walks slowly, compared to a snail).
2. "Sighing like furnace" (lover's sighs are loud, compared to a noisy boiler).
3. "Bearded like the pard" (soldier's beard is compared to a leopard's fur).

B. Pick out other instances of metaphor in the extract.

Answer: A metaphor compares two things without using "like" or "as," stating they are the same. The following are metaphors from the poem:

1. "All the world's a stage" (the world is compared to a stage).
2. "All the men and women merely players" (people are compared to actors).
3. "The bubble reputation" (fame is compared to a fragile bubble that bursts easily).

Additional Notes for Students

- **Understanding Similes and Metaphors:**
 - Similes use "like" or "as" to show similarity (e.g., "like a snail" means slow movement).

- Metaphors directly say one thing is another (e.g., "world's a stage" means life is like a play).
- **How to Study the Poem:**
 - Memorize the seven stages and their key features.
 - Practice explaining similes and metaphors with examples.
 - Relate the stages to people in your life (e.g., a baby sibling for the infant stage).
- **Vocabulary Practice:** Use the word meanings provided earlier (e.g., mewling, sans, pantaloons) in simple sentences to understand them better.

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